



FLOWERING CRABAPPLE CARE

LIGHT

Flowering crabapples (Malus) perform best in full sun. Allow room for the cultivar's mature height, spread, and natural shape. Upright, dwarf, and weeping selections need different spacing; good air circulation helps foliage dry after rain and reduces disease pressure.

WATER

Water slowly and deeply after planting, then check both the root ball and surrounding soil regularly. Keep roots evenly moist while the tree establishes, especially during dry or windy weather. Avoid daily surface sprinkling and waterlogged soil; larger transplanted trees need attention for several growing seasons.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use well-drained soil. Locate the root flare before digging and keep it at or slightly above surrounding ground level, with the graft union exposed. Remove the container and trunk ties. Apply two to three inches of mulch over the roots, leaving a clear gap around the trunk.

FEEDING

Use a soil test to guide fertilizer and lime rather than feeding automatically. Excess nitrogen encourages soft growth and can increase fire blight problems. Keep lawn fertilizer away from the root zone, and do not place concentrated fertilizer against roots or the trunk.

SEASONAL CARE

At planting, remove only damaged branches and suckers. Do later structural pruning while dormant, before spring growth. Remove crossing branches selectively and preserve the natural form; do not top the tree. Remove shoots below a graft. Seek prompt diagnosis for blackened, bent shoot tips before making disease-control cuts.

HELPFUL TIPS

Fruit color, persistence, and abundance vary by cultivar; Spring Snow is essentially fruitless. Preserve the hanging framework of weeping forms instead of forcing an upright shape. Remove fallen diseased leaves and fruit, protect young trunks from mower damage, and loosen or remove support ties as the tree establishes.